

Changing Room Gallery proposal 11/3/99

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It is my intention to use the opportunity of an exhibition to present the graphic animations/video installations produced during my 4 month artist's residency in Finland last year (august-december 98). The exhibition, desirably **End of June/July 99**, would also facilitate the momentum to create a new body of work combining digital video film, shot in the Ochil hills, with graphic animation, leading towards possible collaborations with sound artists and engineers.

While in residence at the Jyvaskyla Centre of Printmaking and Creative Photography (Finland) I used the experience to experiment with my creative practice, combining traditional printmaking techniques with image manipulation and multimedia processes. The produced work was shown initially as part of a live video-mixing performance during the 2 night club event 'ClubLux2', a major showcase of the Valon Voimat (Forces of Light) Festival in Helsinki (november 98). In December the body of work was shown as a solo exhibition in Gallery Harmonia, the affiliated space of the Jyvaskyla Centre. On the opening night of the exhibition, 3 musicians performed a 50 minute live improvisation, creating an ambient layer onto top of what I saw as 'visual beats and pulses'.

Reflecting upon the work produced, I now see that the images and animations created during my time in Finland relate to the physical and psychological environment I was experiencing at the time: 50% mobile phone saturation & first time use of and reliance on the internet for communication; A proximity and respect for nature, a desire to be connected to nature which I had forgotten about after 6 years in Glasgow; Trying to maintain a long distant love in Milan; Discovering a new one in the solitude of the sauna. Also collaborating with video-djs and musicians emphasised the relevance of music (particularly drum and bass) and its inspirational role in the animated loops.

I left Scotland with the aim to explore themes of isolation and integration. Now that I have returned and settled, based half in my hometown of Tillicoultry, and the other half in Glasgow, the theme follows. To exhibit in Stirling would be my first solo show in Scotland, and my intention, at least for the foreseeable future, to be the last - my recent involvement in co-founding of 'DVAtion' this last month marks a personal change in creative ambition.

DVAtion (digital variable artists) is a production company of individual artists and designers combining art forms and formats to produce contemporary multi-media art. Fusing together visual art, music, photography, graphics, film/video and animation, the collective adopts an ano-digital attitude towards individual and collaborative creativity. Focusing upon presentation in contemporary culture, music and club arenas, and depending upon your support, my proposal could include the organisation of a 'cross-over' club night (in the similar mould of 'le weekend' held last year) to follow the opening.